

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-17 (Cancelled)

18. (Previously presented) A method of working a glass plate, comprising the steps of:

- (a) disposing a planar glass plate in a first section;
- (b) bending the planar glass plate disposed in said first section into a concave shape in a cross-sectional view;
- (c) raising the bent glass plate;
- (d) transporting the bent raised glass plate from the first section to a second section and then lowering the bent glass plate;
- (e) canceling the bending of the lowered bent glass plate to restore the bent glass plate to a planar state; and
- (f) working the planar glass plate in at least one of said first section and said second section.

19. (Previously presented) The method of working a glass plate according to claim 18, comprising the steps of sucking the planar glass plate to bend the same.

20. (Previously presented) The method of working a glass plate according to claim 18, wherein the glass plate is bent in a downwardly convex shape.

21. (Previously presented) The method of working a glass plate according to claim 18, wherein one surface of the glass plate is coated.

22 (cancelled)

23. (Currently amended) The method of working a glass plate according to claim 22_18, wherein step (b) includes applying a vacuum to the planar glass plate to bend the glass plate.

24 (Cancelled)

25 (Cancelled.

26. (Previously presented) An apparatus for working a glass plate comprising:
transporting means for transporting a glass plate from a first section to a second section; and

a working section for working the glass plate in a planar state, in at least one of said first section and said second section,

the transporting means having a bending means for bending the glass plate, disposed in the planar state in the first section into a concave shape in a cross-sectional view in a transporting direction, and canceling the bending of the glass plate transported to the second section to restore the bent glass plate to the planar state, and raising/lowering means for raising the bent glass plate by said bending means in the first section, and then lowering the bent glass plate transported to the second section.

27. (Previously presented) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim 26, wherein said transporting means is adapted to carry the glass plate from the first section into the second section in synchronization with a carrying-out operation in which the worked glass plate is carried-out from the second section by said transporting means.

28. (Previously presented) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim 26, wherein said transporting means is adapted to carry another glass plate into the first section in synchronization with a carrying-out operation in which the bent glass plate is carried-out from the first section to the second section.

29. (Previously presented) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim 26, wherein the bending means is adapted to bend the glass plate in a downwardly convex shape.

30. (Previously presented) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim 26, wherein the bending means has suction means for sucking the glass plate to bend the glass plate into said concave shape.

31. (Currently amended) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim ~~26~~ 30, wherein said suction means has a recessed portion for sucking one surface of the glass plate, and a holding surface, which has a concave shape in the cross-sectional view in the transporting direction, for holding the glass plate sucked, said recessed portion being disposed in said holding surface.

32. (Currently amended) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim ~~26~~ 30, wherein said suction means has a recessed portion for sucking one surface of the glass plate, and a holding surface having a V-shape in the cross-sectional view in the transporting direction for holding the glass plate sucked, said recessed portion being disposed in said holding surface.

33. (Previously presented) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim 26, wherein one surface of the glass plate is coated.

34-37 (Cancelled)